

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method and corresponding apparatus for encoding a sequence of bits for transmission as symbols, some of the bit positions of the symbols having a higher bit error rate than other bit positions. The method includes: a step (31, 32, 41, 42) of providing a plurality of sequences of bits using a convolutional encoder (31, 41), in response to a sequence of input bits, each sequence of bits being defined by a predetermined generator polynomial having a predetermined level of sensitivity to puncturing; and a step (33, 44) of mapping the bits of each sequence of bits to symbol positions based on the level of sensitivity of the generator polynomial defining the sequence of bits. With interleaving, the mapping of bits of each sequence of bits to symbol positions (33, 44) can precede a symbol interleaving step (34), or it can follow a bit interleaving step (43).